

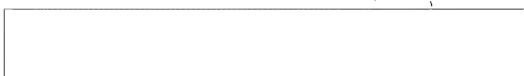


The President's Daily Brief

25X1

18 September 1973

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

18 September 1973

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

According to Jordanian Prime Minister Rifai, the Jordanians made no concessions at the tripartite summit in Cairo and were the big winners. (Page 1)

25X1

A high Afghan official claims that Moscow has endorsed Afghan views on developments in bordering tribal areas of Pakistan and Iran. (Page 2)

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Syria

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(Page 3)

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West German

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(Page 4)

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In Chile, sporadic attacks on security forces continue, but there are indications that the government feels it has the security situation under control. (Page 5)

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JORDAN-EGYPT-SYRIA

Jordanian Prime Minister Rifai told Ambassador Brown last weekend that the Jordanians see themselves as the big winners at the tripartite meeting at Cairo. Husayn made no concessions, and although relations with Syria were not re-established, President Asad promised to go back to Damascus and see what he could do.

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The three agreed that tripartite talks would continue, next in Damascus, then in Amman, although no dates were set. The three countries would also hold talks occasionally dealing with military subjects, but they would merely be talks--there would be no unified command and no stationing of Syrian or Egyptian forces in Jordan. Husayn made it clear that nothing of the sort could even be "considered" until financial arrangements had been worked out--a not-very-subtle reference to the renewal of the Kuwaiti subsidy.

Asad refused to endorse Resolution 242; he made it clear that in his opinion Syrian adherence would not make the slightest difference to the situation in the Middle East, but that when real peace efforts get under way "Syria will be there."

Both Sadat and Asad were critical of the US, saying that Washington had no wish to see peace in the Middle East if that might mean any trouble with Israel or with pro-Israeli Americans. They were even more critical of the Soviets

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Both Egypt and Jordan have come out of the conference ahead, even though the gains were largely psychological. Sadat's rapprochement with Husayn is an essential element in his effort to forge greater inter-Arab cooperation; he can also use his relationship with Jordan to deflect pressure toward war coming from Qadhafi and other extremists. Husayn, meanwhile, has finally broken out of a period of isolation that lasted nearly three years--though the resumption of relations with Damascus and the restoration of the Kuwaiti subsidy may still be some time off.

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AFGHANISTAN-USSR

The Afghan Deputy Foreign Minister, who accompanied presidential adviser Naim Khan to Moscow last week, told Chargé Lewis on Saturday that the trip covered both political and economic issues, and that the Soviets were "friendly, understanding, and helpful." The discussions included "menacing" Iranian activities in Iranian Baluchistan as well as political trends in the two Pakistani provinces bordering Afghanistan.

The official claimed that the Soviets endorsed Afghan views on these problems. He implied that Moscow had assured Kabul of full diplomatic support in the event there is a dispute between Afghanistan and Iran or Pakistan over frontier problems.

Despite this continuing support for the Afghans, there is evidence that the Soviets would like to prevent further instability in this area along the USSR's southern flank.

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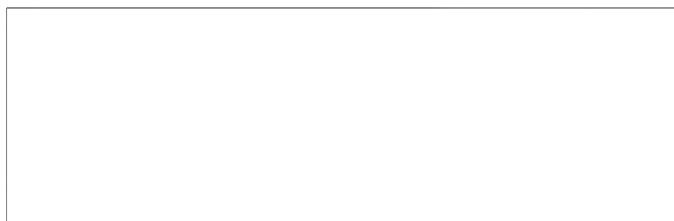
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SYRIA

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WEST GERMANY



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CHILE

Sporadic attacks on security forces continue, but no new major assaults on military installations have been reported. The junta government plans to allow some quiet independence day ceremonies today to emphasize that the situation is returning to normal.

In Santiago, junta forces are tightening the ring around extremists who have taken refuge to the outlying slums. The interior minister claims that at least 4,000 "suspects" are now being detained in the capital alone. Elsewhere in the country the continuing search for arms caches is encountering little resistance.

The junta is weeding out the Allende government's appointees from state enterprises and other official positions, and replacing them with active and retired military officers as well as independent civilians. Several Christian Democrats have been brought into the government, including the minister of justice and three subsecretaries in other ministries.

Christian Democrats face a dilemma in their relations with the junta. They hope to staff middle-level positions in an effort to influence policy, but at the same time wish to avoid close identification with the government. Party leaders already fear reprisals from the extreme rightists being recruited by the junta, and now reportedly believe that cooperation with the new regime might subject them to retaliation from leftist extremists. Former President Frei is considering going into exile until the direction of the new government clarifies and the security situation stabilizes.

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